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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/827,076	04/19/2004	Timothy Darren Brown	2003-0737.01	1887

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LEXMARK INTERNATIONAL, INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPARTMENT
740 WEST NEW CIRCLE ROAD
BLDG. 082-1
LEXINGTON, KY 40550-0999

EXAMINER
UNELUS, ERNEST

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2181	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/827,076	BROWN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ernest Unelus	2181	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 March 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-34</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-34</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>19 April 2004</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT

Claim rejections based on prior art

1.   Applicant's arguments filed 03/27/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that Boldt, the cited reference, teaches of querying a target device for setting information before writing the settings; this is not completely correct; even if that was completely correct, the language of the applicant's claim doesn't specified a particular steps of all the events.

Looking at the Boldt reference, figs. 2-7 is the step of a computer taking the setting features from a source and distributing the settings to one or more targets; for example, see 'Graphical User Interface for Controlling Printer Settings', from col. 6, line 24 to col. 7, line 52. Further, see col. 6, lines 32-38, which disclose, "The user may select either an actual printer 8a, b, c, d or a printer file including printer settings. The printer file is a data file stored in a storage area of the computer 4a, b, c, d. Printer files are created to store various printer settings. The user can then apply the printer file to a printer 8a, b, c, d to configure the printer 8a, b, c, d according to the settings maintained in the printer file". See also col. 6, lines 46-51. Col. 7, lines 15-23 discloses "This dialog box 32 shows which values failed to copy over successfully. For instance, the value for the console lock feature was not copied from the source printer "Office" to the target printer "Printer room" as the console lock feature is not an available feature on the target printer "Printer room," i.e., one cannot lock the console of the printer "Printer room"". As disclose above, Boldt discloses the

writhing of the setting from a source to the targets and one of the features of the setting not

being accepted by a particular target, which is o form of error.

In regards to the querying and the retransmission of the settings after the error, as

Boldt discloses, these two steps take place in the loop as Boldt discloses in col. 8, lines 50-53;

see col. 8, line 50 to col. 9, line 12. After receiving an initial setting, if a particular target

printer is not happy (configured) with one or two of the features from the setting, the

computer will query the printer, a target, to see what kind of setting it can support, if it

doesn't support something such as 'console lock'. After the query, the computer will

transmit the best setting for the target printer.

The newly claim 34 has been considered.

INFORMATION CONCERNING OATH/DECLARATION

Oath/Declaration

2.   The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found to

conform to the requirements prescribed in **37 C.F.R. 1.63**.

INFORMATION CONCERNING DRAWINGS
Drawings

3.   The applicant's drawings submitted are acceptable for examination purposes.

REJECTIONS BASED ON PRIOR ART

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   **Claims 1-34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boldt et al. (US pat. 6,349,304).

6.   As per **claims 1, 12, and 23**, Boldt discloses "A method of establishing a plurality of target device settings for at least one target device based on a plurality of source device settings of a source device via a network **(see abstract)**, comprising the steps of:

writing each setting of said plurality of source device settings to said at least one target device (see col. **8, lines 44-47, which discloses "then the computer 4a, b, c, d would begin the process of copying values for the selected features from the source printer 8a, b, c, d or printer file to the targets")**;

generating an invalid setting indication for each setting not accepted by said at least one target device (see col. **8, lines 50-58 and col. 9, lines 17-20, which discloses one or more printers not being happy (configured) with one or some of the selected features that had been forwarded to it/them. The generating of the invalid setting is the collecting of the selected features because it is one or two of those features that is not valid. Further, please see fig. 7, which discloses one of the selected features such as 'console lock' not being accepted to the target, 'printer room 164.108'. Looking back at fig. 4, someone can see that 'console lock' was one of the selected features)**;

querying said at least one target device for setting information based on each said invalid setting indication (see col. 8, lines 60-67, which discloses **"If the target is a printer 8a, b, c, d, then control transfers to block 64 where the computer 4a, b, c, d transmits a query over the network 10 to the target printer 8a, b, c, d to determine whether the target printer 8a, b, c, d supports both the selected feature and the source value for the selected feature. For instance, the target printer 8a, b, c, d may support the selected feature, but may not be capable of implementing the source value for the selected feature"**); and

writing, for at least one of said each setting not accepted by said at least one target device, a value to said at least one target device, said value corresponding to said setting information"(see col. 9, lines 3-12, which discloses **"After determining which of the values for the selected features are supported at the target printer 8a, b, c, d, control transfers to block 66 where the computer 4a, b, c, d configures the selected target printer with the values for the selected group of features that are available at the target printer 8a, b, c, d, as determined from the query at block 64"**).

Note: the beginning of col. 8, lines 50-53, discloses the beginning steps of a loop to configured all targets devices. The applicant look at the middle of the loop, the querying part, and stated that Boldt, the cited reference, starts with the querying; that is not completely correct because col. 8, lines 50-53 discloses **"Control then transfers to block 60 which is the start of a loop that continues while there are target printers 8a, b, c, d and/or a printer file that have not been configured with the values of the selected source features"**.

7.   As per **claims 2, 13, and 24,** Boldt discloses "The method of claim 1", **[see rejection to claim 1 above]**, "further comprising the step of retrieving said plurality of source device settings from a location prior to said writing said each setting" **(col. 8, lines 43-47 discloses the computer collecting a setting before it writes it to the targets. See fig. 4).**

8.   As per **claims 3, 14, and 25,** Boldt further discloses "further comprising the step of retrieving an optimized list of source device settings from a location, wherein said writing said each setting includes writing said each setting according to said optimized list of source device settings **(see col. 9, lines 1-9).**

9.   As per **claims 4, 15, and 26,** Boldt discloses "wherein said optimized list of source device settings is based on a dependency of one of said each setting upon another of said each setting **(see col. 8, line 60 to col. 9, line 9).**

10.   As per **claims 5, 16, and 27,** Boldt further discloses "comprising the step of verifying an acceptance of said each setting by said at least one target device prior to said generating said invalid setting indication **(see col. 8, lines 31-49 and fig. 4).**

11.   As per **claims 6, 17, and 28,** Boldt discloses "wherein said source device transmits a program to a computer via said network **(see col. 7, lines 55-58, which discloses the application program to configure the setting features to the targets),** said computer having access to said at least one target device via said network **(see col. 7, lines 55-58, which stated the printers as**

the target device), said program executing on said computer to perform said steps of said

writing said each setting (see col. 8, lines 43-47, which discloses the computer writing a

setting from a source to the targets), said generating said invalid setting indication (col. 8,

lines 50-58 and col. 9, lines 17-20 discloses a selected feature from the setting file not being

copied to a particular target or multiple target not), said querying said at least one target

device (see col. 8, lines 60 -67), and said writing said value (see col. 9, lines 3-12).

12.   As per **claims 7, 18, and 29,** Boldt further discloses "comprising the step of constructing

at least one error tracking page listing each said invalid setting indication (see fig. 7, which

discloses "printer room 164.108....Console lock-cannot be set on this printer").

13.   As per **claims 8, 19, and 30,** Boldt discloses "wherein said at least one error tracking

page corresponds to said at least one target device (see fig. 7, which discloses printer room

164.108 as the target device).

14.   As per **claims 9, 20, and 31,** Boldt discloses "wherein 9. The method of claim 7,

wherein said at least one error tracking page corresponds to a unique network identifier of said at

least one target device (see fig. 7, which discloses printer room 164.108 as a 'unique network

identifier' target device).

15.   As per **claims 10, 21, and 32,** Boldt discloses "wherein said setting information includes

a current target device setting (see col. 8, lines 43-47 discloses the computer writing a setting

from a source to the current targets in the network, which means they are available to

accept the setting).

·16.   As per **claims 11, 22, and 33,** Boldt discloses "wherein said setting information includes

available settings for said at least one target device **(see col. 8, lines 43-47 discloses the**

computer writing a setting from a source to the targets, which means they are available to

accept the setting).

17.   As per **claim 34,** Boldt discloses "A method of establishing via a network a target device

setting for a target device based on a source device setting of a source device **(see abstract),**

comprising:

obtaining said source device setting from said source device **(see col. 6, lines 46-49,**

which discloses "The dialog box 24 lists groups of features 26 available in the source

printer 8a, b, c, d or printer file. A user would select the features from the

displayed groups of source features 26");

attempting to write said source device setting to said target device **(see col. 8, lines 44-47,**

which discloses "then the computer 4a, b, c, d would begin the process of copying values for

the selected features from the source printer 8a, b, c, d or printer file to the targets"); and

determining whether said target device accepted said source device setting that was

attempted to be written to said target device **(see col. 8, lines 50-53, which discloses the**

beginning steps of a loop to configured all targets devices"),

wherein if said target device did not accept said source device setting, said method

further comprising (see col. 8, lines 50-58 and col. 9, lines 17-20, which discloses one or more

printers not being happy (configured) with one or some of the selected features that had

been forwarded to it/them. Further, please see fig. 7, which discloses one of the selected

features such as 'console lock' not being accepted to the target, 'printer room 164.108'.

Looking back at fig. 4, someone can see that 'console lock' was one of the selected features):

tracking an error (a device setting not being accepted), said error indicating that said

target device did not accept said source device setting that was attempted to be written to said

target device (see col. 8, lines 60-67, which discloses "If the target is a printer 8a, b, c, d, then

control transfers to block 64 where the computer 4a, b, c, d transmits a query over the

network 10 to the target printer 8a, b, c, d to determine whether the target printer 8a, b, c,

d supports both the selected feature and the source value for the selected feature. For

instance, the target printer 8a, b, c, d may support the selected feature, but may not be

capable of implementing the source value for the selected feature");

determining available settings for said target device (see col. 8, lines 60-67);

displaying said available settings to a user (see col. 6, lines 52-63);

selecting, by said user, a desired value from said available settings as a replacement for said

source device setting (see col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 12, which discloses "For instance, the

target printer 8a, b, c, d may support the selected feature, but may not be capable of

implementing the source value for the selected feature. If the selected target was a printer

file, then the computer 4a, b, c, d would just write the values for the selected source feature

to the file. After determining which of the values for the selected features are supported at

the target printer 8a, b, c, d, control transfers to block 66 where the computer 4a, b, c, d

configures the selected target printer with the values for the selected group of features that

are available at the target printer 8a, b, c, d, as determined from the query at block 64");

and

fixing said error by writing said desired value to said target device **(see col. 9, lines 3-12).**

RELEVANT ART CITED BY THE EXAMINER

18.   The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is cited to establish the level

of skill in the applicant's art and those arts considered reasonably pertinent to applicant's

disclosure. See **MPEP 707.05(c)**.

19.   The following reference teaches using the setting of one printer in a network to set the
other ones.

U.S. PATENT NUMBER

US 7,039,724

CLOSING COMMENTS

Conclusion

a. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

20.   The following is a summary of the treatment and status of all claims in the application as

recommended by **M.P.E.P. 707.07(i)**:

a(1) CLAIMS REJECTED IN THE APPLICATION

21.   Per the instant office action, claims 1-34 have received a first action on the merits and are

subject of a first action non-final.

DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES

22.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Ernest Unelus whose telephone number is (571) 272-

8596. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

IMPORTANT NOTE

23.   If attempts to reach the above noted Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful,

the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Donald Sparks, can be reached at the following telephone

number: Area Code (571) 272-4201.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be

obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status

information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or

Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private

PAIR only. For more information about the PMR system, see her//pair-direct.uspto.gov.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the

Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217- 91 97 (toll-free).

May 24, 2007   Ernest Unelus
                                                 Patent Examiner
                                                 Art Unit 2181

                                                 DONALD SPARKS
                                                 SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER